



21ST CENTURY
COMMUNITY
LEARNING CENTER
PAUL LAURENCE
DUNBAR MIDDLE
SCHOOL

LYNCHBURG CITY SCHOOLS
LYNCHBURG VIRGINIA

DUANE THOMAS,
COORDINATOR

ABOUT DUNBAR CCLC



○ About Dunbar

- Student Population- school has approximately 660 students grades 6-8.
 - Title One School
- Coming in as a new coordinator, I have learned some good lessons.
 - Organize your grant FIRST.
 - Build your stakeholder community from inside the school system and in the community
 - Partnerships are essential to your success.
 - Make sure your staff connect with the school day staff.
 - Be creative on engaging parents
 - Most importantly... Be Flexible

STARTING OFF RIGHT... RIGHT FROM THE START....

Grant Organization.

- ◎ The most important thing for all new coordinators is to know the expectations of your grant.
 - Making your expectations visible will help you identify what you have to do...
 - What works well....
 - Wall Calendar- The wall calendar allows you to dissect the grant to see what grant deliverables need to happen throughout the year. This helps you as a coordinator and your staff.

DON'T FEEL LIKE YOU HAVE TO DO IT ALONE....

◉ Stakeholders

- Establishing stakeholders allows you as a coordinator to know who and where you can seek support.
 - ◉ Pull your stakeholders from both inside and outside of your school system.
 - Use the strengths of your school
 - ◉ Dunbar as Herpetology
 - ◉ Establish stakeholders meeting quarterly. This allows you to monitor your program as you go.



PARTNERSHIPS



◉ Partners, Partners, Partners

- The purpose of the Community Learning Center is that the entire community believes in and wants every student to be successful.
 - Perfect partners are organizations and programs within your community that have a similar mission of success for students.
 - Colleges/ Universities
 - Youth Programs
 - Be flexible in partnerships, if you establish a partner who ends up not working out, don't get discouraged. Adjust and move forward
 - Be on the constant look out for new partners. As the program matures, the need for new or even different programs may exist.

INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF/ TEACHERS

- ◉ Emerging school day teachers into the after school program.
 - The continuity of teachers is important in the educational goals for students.
 - Connecting teachers to mentor and support each other allows them to build a continuity between after school and the school day.
 - Connect support staff to teaching staff to build the success for each student.



PARENT PARTNERSHIPS

◉ Engaging parents

- Difficult but not impossible.
 - Be creative
 - Take time to get to know the parents needs and situations in order to establish the best engagement strategy.
 - Try something, and if it doesn't work.. Try something else... but don't give up.



FLEXIBILITY

A more
flexible
approach



- The most important thing to remember is the importance of flexibility.
 - Your grant has specific outcomes and objectives to be met.
 - How you meet those outcomes and objectives may change over the 3 years.
 - Be willing to be flexible in meeting the outcomes and objectives through an approach that is best for your own school community.

QUESTIONS/ COMMENTS?

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